



PLACER COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**  
CORONER-MARSHAL



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**EDWARD N. BONNER**  
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

**STEPHEN L. D'ARCY**  
UNDERSHERIFF

## PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: 2-15-2001 2:30 PM  
Date/Time of Occurrence: 2-15-2001 10:22 AM  
Nature of Call: Airplane Crash  
Location of Call: Auburn Airport  
Case Number: SO-01 2743  
Released by: Lt. Rick Armstrong 530-889-7816

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### **SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:**

At approximately 10:22 AM on Thursday 2-15-01 a CHP flight officer at Auburn Airport was contacted by a citizen and told an airplane had just crashed east of the airport. Flight Officer Matt Causie responded to the area on foot and found a Beechcraft Skipper aircraft lying upside down in a PG&E ditch. Officer Causie and other members of the Air Operations Wing of the CHP located an adult male lying adjacent to the plane with visible injuries. The flight crews were able to assess and treat the pilot, later identified as Douglas Samuel Smith, 69, of Grass Valley, and arrange for medical transportation of Mr. Smith to Roseville Hospital. Causie described Smith's injuries as cuts on his hands and head and a complaint of chest pain.

Emergency personnel from the Placer County Sheriff's Office, Auburn Police Department, Consolidated Fire Department, Placer County OES and Placer County Environmental Health responded to the scene. A unified command was established and the scene secured awaiting the arrival of FAA personnel from Sacramento. After the FAA conducts their investigation and releases the scene, the airplane will be removed from the ditch. The scene is currently under the jurisdiction of the Auburn Police Department, who will be handling the follow up investigation.